

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A sulphur pellet comprising an H₂S-suppressant in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w), based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet, and elemental sulphur in the range of from 60 to 100 wt%, based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet.
2. (Previously Presented) The sulphur pellet according to claim 1, comprising elemental sulphur in the range of from 75 to 100 wt%, based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet.
3. (Previously Presented) The sulphur pellet according to claim, wherein the H₂S-suppressant is one or more compounds selected from the class of free radical inhibitors and redox catalysts.
4. (Previously Presented) The sulphur pellet according to claim 1, wherein the H₂S-suppressant is selected from the group consisting of iodine, amine compounds, copper salts, copper oxides, iron salts, iron oxides, cobalt salts and cobalt oxides.
5. (Previously Presented) The sulphur pellet according to claim 4, wherein the iron salts is an iron chloride compound selected from the group consisting of ferric chloride, hydrated ferric chloride, ferrous chloride and hydrated ferrous chloride.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of sulphur pellets ~~comprising at least one H₂S-suppressant, wherein~~ the process ~~comprises~~ the steps of:
 - (a) mixing elemental sulphur and ~~one or more~~ an H₂S-suppressant in a mixing unit to obtain a mixture; and

(b) shaping the mixture in a pelletising unit to obtain an H₂S-suppressant-comprising sulphur pellets.

8. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the elemental sulphur is introduced in mixing step (a) as molten sulphur with the temperature of the mixture being kept above 113 °C.

9. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the ~~one or more~~ H₂S-suppressant is selected from the class of free radical inhibitors and redox catalysts.

10. (Currently Amended) A process to manufacture a sulphur-comprising asphalt paving mixture, the process comprising the steps of:

(i) preheating bitumen at a temperature of between ~~140~~120 and 180 °C to provide a hot bitumen;

(ii) preheating aggregate at a temperature of between ~~140~~120 and 180 °C to provide a hot ~~aggregate bitumen~~;

(iii) mixing the hot bitumen with the hot aggregate in a mixing unit[.]; and
~~wherein a sulphur pellets comprising an H₂S suppressant and elemental sulphur in the range of from 60 to 100 wt% elemental sulphur, based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet is added in at least one of the steps (i), (ii) or (iii).~~

(iv) adding a sulphur pellet to said bitumen of step (i) or to said aggregate of step (ii) or to said mixing unit of step (iii), wherein said sulphur pellet consists essentially of: elemental sulphur, an H₂S-suppressant, and, optionally, a filler.

11. (New) A process as recited in claim 10, wherein said H₂S-suppressant is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w), based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.

12. (New) A process as recited in claim 11, wherein said H_2S -suppressant is selected from the group consisting of iodine, amine compounds, copper salts, copper oxides, iron salts, iron oxides, cobalt salts and cobalt oxides.

13. (New) A process as recited in claim 12, wherein said iron salts include ferric chloride, hydrated ferric chloride, ferrous chloride and hydrated ferrous chloride.

14. (New) A process as recited in claim 13, wherein said filler is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.1% to 30% (w/w), based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet, and wherein said filler is a calcium-based mineral filler.

15. (New) A process to manufacture a sulphur-comprising asphalt paving mixture, the process comprising the steps of:

- (i) preheating bitumen at a temperature of between 120 and 180 °C to provide a hot bitumen;
- (ii) preheating aggregate at a temperature of between 120 and 180 °C to provide a hot aggregate;
- (iii) mixing the hot bitumen with the hot aggregate in a mixing unit; and
- (iv) adding a sulphur pellet to said bitumen of step (i) or to said aggregate of step (ii) or to said mixing unit of step (iii), wherein said sulphur pellet has a substantial absence of bitumen or aggregate, or both, and includes elemental sulphur and an H_2S -suppressant in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w) based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.

16. (New) A process as recited in claim 15, wherein said H_2S -suppressant is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w), based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.

17. (New) A process as recited in claim 16, wherein said H_2S -suppressant is selected from the group consisting of iodine, amine compounds, copper salts, copper oxides, iron salts, iron oxides, cobalt salts and cobalt oxides.

18. (New) A process as recited in claim 17, wherein said iron salts include ferric chloride, hydrated ferric chloride, ferrous chloride and hydrated ferrous chloride.
19. (New) A process as recited in claim 18, wherein said sulphur pellet includes a calcium-based mineral filler that is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.1% to 30% (w/w), based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet.
20. (New) A sulphur pellet composition, consisting essentially of: elemental sulphur, an H₂S-suppressant, and, optionally, a filler.
21. (New) A sulphur pellet composition as recited in claim 20, wherein said H₂S-suppressant is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w), based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.
22. (New) A sulphur pellet composition as recited in claim 21, wherein said H₂S-suppressant is selected from the group consisting of iodine, amine compounds, copper salts, copper oxides, iron salts, iron oxides, cobalt salts and cobalt oxides.
23. (New) A sulphur pellet composition as recited in claim 22, wherein said iron salts include ferric chloride, hydrated ferric chloride, ferrous chloride and hydrated ferrous chloride.
24. (New) A sulphur pellet composition as recited in claim 23, wherein said filler is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.1% to 30% (w/w), based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet, and wherein said filler is a calcium-based mineral filler.
25. (New) A composition, comprising: a sulphur pellet having a substantial absence of bitumen or aggregate, or both, and including elemental sulphur and an H₂S-suppressant in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w) based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.

26. (New) A composition as recited in claim 25, wherein said H_2S -suppressant is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.02% to 10% (w/w), based on the total weight of said sulphur pellet.

27. (New) A composition as recited in claim 26, wherein said H_2S -suppressant is selected from the group consisting of iodine, amine compounds, copper salts, copper oxides, iron salts, iron oxides, cobalt salts and cobalt oxides.

28. (New) A composition as recited in claim 27, wherein said iron salts include ferric chloride, hydrated ferric chloride, ferrous chloride and hydrated ferrous chloride.

29. (New) A composition as recited in claim 28, wherein said sulphur pellet includes a calcium-based mineral filler that is present in said sulphur pellet in an amount in the range of from 0.1% to 30% (w/w), based on the total weight of the sulphur pellet.

30. (New) A process for making a sulphur pellet, wherein said process comprises:

mixing elemental sulphur and an H_2S -suppressant by the introduction thereof, without the substantial addition of bitumen or aggregate, or both, into a mixing unit for preparing a mixture of said elemental sulphur and said H_2S -suppressant; and

forming said mixture into a sulphur pellet.

31. (New) A process as recited in claim 30, wherein said sulphur pellet has the composition as recited in any one of claims 11-20.

32. (New) A process as recited in claim 31, wherein said elemental sulphur of said mixing step is added to said mixing unit in the form a slurry comprising sulphur particles dispersed in water.

33. (New) A process as recited in claim 32, wherein said sulphur particles have a size in the range of from about 0.5 microns to about 150 microns.
34. (New) A process as recited in claim 33, wherein said slurry further comprises an emulsifier.
35. (New) A process as recited in claim 30, wherein said elemental sulphur of said mixing step is added to said mixing unit in the form of molten sulphur and the mixing of said mixing step is conducted at a temperature in the range of from 115 °C to 121 °C.